

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1696
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2003
TYPES OF AIRCRAFT
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Air India is considering to acquire 18 single-aisle planes in the near future;
- (b) the sectors on which these aircrafts will be inducted;
- (c) the reasons for preferring single-aisle planes to wide bodied planes by Air India;
- (d) the cost of acquisition of 18 single-aisle planes by Air India along with the sources of fund;
- (e) whether Indian Airlines plans to remove all the wide bodied planes from its operational fleet; and
- (f) if so, the reasons therefore?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

(a): Air India has not taken a final decision on acquisition of single aisle planes.

(b),(c) and (d): Do not arise.

(e) and (f): Yes, Sir. The wide bodied aircraft inducted in the late seventies and early eighties are no longer in production. These aircrafts with over 20 years of service in Indian Airlines require more frequent scheduled checks as per DGCA stipulations leading to an increase in maintenance workload and higher maintenance cost. They are also required to undergo mandatory inspection and modification entailing heavy expenditure and grounding for fairly long period of time.